

SUBJECT: Future Soldier Initiative

1. Purpose: Create and execute a leap-ahead Future Soldier concept development initiative which will define a set of Soldier-focused S&T programs for POM14 to ensure that every future Soldier will be equipped physically, cognitively, socially and with the materiel solutions to conduct Full Spectrum Operations in both traditional and non-traditional roles, and in complex, rapidly changing environments.
2. Facts:
 - a. Today's Soldier is continually challenged to adapt to and function in a complex, multi-dimensional operational environment. The Army is currently deficient in preparing and sustaining Soldiers for a future world of persistent conflict that will require unparalleled levels of adaptability, flexibility and resiliency. The solution lies with a holistic, focused effort that engages and integrates all segments of the Army community.
 - b. This holistic effort will be based on a frame of reference which takes into account projections of the global state and forecasts a future security environment characterized by a state of persistent conflict. It will address the projections of the Army Posture Statement which identifies seven enduring trends that will likely exacerbate sources of conflict including:
 - i) Globalization conjoined with technological innovations
 - ii) Demographic changes coupled with increasing urbanization
 - iii) Conflict over limited natural resources
 - iv) Climate change and natural disasters
 - v) Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and
 - vi) Consequences of failed or failing states
 - c. To position the Army to move forward with this initiative, NSRDEC proposes to lead a set of activities involving all pertinent stakeholders that will define and prioritize a Future Soldier investment strategy that will:
 - i) Develop the frame of reference based on Army and DoD future requirements/doctrine (Army Posture Statement, FM 3-0, FM 7-0 etc.) and a set of study questions to examine key operational, technical and programmatic feasibility issues, payoff and priorities and current/new requirements
 - ii) Identify tools, in concert with TRADOC, including existing, modified, or new vignettes/experiments to support study investigations and conduct approved wargames that incorporate previously existing and new doctrinal input
 - iii) Propose a set of Soldier-focused S&T programs, by analyzing S&T costs and analysis, to create a Soldier domain portfolio for POM14
 - iv) Construct roadmap/strategy coordinated with all other RDECs, ARL and AMSAA and communicate results and "path forward" to leadership.
 - d. TRADOC and PEO-Soldier have been briefed on the initiative and are supportive. Near Term activities will be developed in collaboration with TRADOC and PEO-Soldier and will identify opportunities to integrate warfighter experience as a critical element of the framing activity. This initiative will complement current efforts such as "Soldier as a System".